

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently amended) A system for connecting an application to a database having a database management system in order to perform a transaction, said application residing on an application server and said database residing on a database server, said system comprising:

- a software driver for connecting said application to said database, wherein a transaction request is made from said application to said database via said software driver;
- a distributed transaction coordinator unit residing on said database server, said distributed transaction coordinator including a dynamic load library that provides distributed transaction management control, and being arranged for receiving said transaction request;
- a software transaction switch residing on said database server, said transaction switch being arranged for routing said transaction request to the distributed transaction coordinator; and
- a software library residing on said database server, said software library including at least one procedure for mapping said transaction request to said transaction switch, wherein said at least one procedure communicates with said transaction switch to start a transaction process in said database based upon said transaction request, and said database receives results of said transaction process and returns results to said distributed transaction coordinator, which returns said results to said application.

2. (Cancel)

3. (Cancel)

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said software driver is a wire protocol driver that provides direct TCP communications sessions with the database server.

5. (Previously presented) The system of claim 4 wherein said wire protocol driver includes interfaces to allow the database server to implement JTA distributed transactions.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said software driver is arranged to send request packets to said database to execute said at least one procedure.

7. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said software transaction switch is arranged to make calls to said distributed transaction coordinator upon receipt of the transaction request.

8. (Currently amended) A system for connecting an application to a database having a database management system in order to perform a transaction, said application and said database residing on a database server, said system comprising:

- a software driver for connecting said application to said database, wherein a transaction request is made from said application to said database via said software driver;
- a distributed transaction coordinator unit residing on said database server, said distributed transaction coordinator including a dynamic load library that provides distributed transaction management control, and being arranged for receiving said transaction request;
- a software transaction switch residing on said database server, said software transaction switch being arranged for routing said transaction request to the distributed transaction coordinator; and
- a software library residing on said database server, said software library including at least one procedure for mapping said transaction request to said transaction switch, wherein said at least one procedure communicates with said transaction switch to start a transaction process in said database based upon said transaction request, and said database receives results of said transaction process and returns results to said distributed transaction coordinator, which returns said results to said application.

9. (Currently amended) A method for performing a distributed transaction by connecting an application to a database having a database management system, said application residing on an application server and said database residing on a database server, comprising:

making a transaction request, by sending a request packet from said application server

to said database to execute at least one of a plurality of stored procedures on said database;  
mapping said transaction request to a transaction switch residing on said database server using at least one of said stored procedures;  
sending said transaction request, via said transaction switch, to a dynamic load library in a distributed transaction coordinator residing on said database server, wherein said dynamic load library provides distributed transaction management control, and said at least one procedure communicates with said transaction switch to start a transaction process in said database based upon said transaction request, and said database receives results of said transaction process and returns results to said distributed transaction coordinator;  
returning ~~a status of said transaction request~~said results to the application server; and reporting said status results of said transaction request to the application.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising: storing said stored procedures in a library residing on said database.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein sending a request packet includes: sending said request packet via a wire protocol driver.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising: including interfaces in said wire protocol for implementing JTA distributed transactions.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising: allowing a transaction to enlist a distributed transaction with at least one of said stored procedures.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein mapping said transaction request to said transaction switch includes making calls into a switch library residing on said database server to connect the application to the database.

15. (Currently amended) A method for performing a distributed transaction by connecting an application to a database having a database management system, said application residing on an application server and said database residing on a database server, comprising:

transmitting a start request transmitted from said application to said database;

calling an extended stored procedure from a plurality of stored procedures stored in said database based on said start request, said extended stored procedure for mapping said start request to a transaction switch residing on said database server;

calling, by the extended stored procedure, a start function in a transaction switch library of said transaction switch residing on said database server;

obtaining, by the extended stored procedure, a transaction ID responsive to said start function from said database at a distributed transaction coordinator that includes a dynamic load library that provides distributed transaction management control; and

returning said transaction ID to a-said application server; and

sending a data packet to said database along with the transaction ID instructing the database server to enlist a specified transaction in a distributed transaction.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein returning said transaction ID includes: returning the transaction ID in the form of a transaction cookie.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein transmitting said start request includes: transmitting the start request via a driver on the application server.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising: storing said plurality of stored procedures in a library located on said database.

19. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein sending a data packet includes: sending said data packet via a wire protocol driver.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 further comprising: including interfaces in said wire protocol driver for connecting to said database.

21. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising: allowing a transaction to enlist a distributed transaction with one of said plurality of procedures.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, further including: at least one of said plurality of procedures making calls into said transaction switch library to connect the application to the database.

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, further including: said transaction switch library making calls to ~~a~~said distributed transaction coordinator.